
In Focus

Winter 2013

**News from the BSBP Braille and
Talking Book Library (BTBL)**



Bureau of Services for Blind Persons Established

As of October 1, 2012, the Braille and Talking Book Library is operating under the newly established Bureau of Services for Blind Persons (Bureau) within the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA). The Bureau was established by the Governor in Executive Order 2012-10 which abolished the Michigan Commission for the Blind. With this new organizational format came our new Bureau Director, Edward F. Rodgers II. Director Rodgers previously served as an Administrative Law Judge within LARA. Prior to that he served as a Senior Assistant Prosecutor for Ingham County. Before attending law school Ed taught 3 years in the Lansing School District as a 5th and 6th grade teacher. He is a graduate of the Michigan School for the Blind in Lansing. Ed earned his Bachelors and Masters degrees from Michigan State University and his Law Degree from the University South Carolina.

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Technology Corner

Scott Norris, *Adaptive Technology Librarian*
1-800-992-9012 or norriss5@michigan.gov

Computer and Book Clubs

Computer and Book Clubs meet on the second Saturday of each month in the BTBL public service area on the ground floor of the Michigan Library and Historical Center, across from the elevators. Computer Club meets from 10:30 to 12:30 followed by Book Club at 1:30. If you cannot attend in person, you may join either club via the BTBL Online Meeting Room using this link:

<http://www.conference321.com/masteradmin/room.asp?id=rs417aa6694fed>

Users of the BTBL online room may enter any username they wish. To enter the room as a participant, please leave the password field blank. A software plugin is required for full access to tcConference, the web conferencing software from Talking Communities. The entry page to the BTBL Online Meeting Room contains helpful information about the plug-in. A no-plug-in-required web interface also is available for Mac, Linux, and MS users who cannot install the software plug-in. Please note, however, that not all tcConference features are available through the web interface.

Club Schedules

March 9: DB/RC18585 ***The Black Tulip*** by Alexander Dumas

March 9: ***Android Operating System and Nexus Tablet***
by Al Puzzuoli of the MSU Resource Center for
Persons with Disabilities

April 13: DB/RC45619 ***A Walk in the Woods: Rediscovering America on the Appalachian Trail*** by Bill Bryson

April 13: Kellie Blackwell, adaptive technology trainer for Capital Area Center for Independent Living, will present.

BARD Gets a Face Lift

By Scott Norris

If you haven't been to the BARD (Braille and Audio Reading Download) web site lately you should take a look. The BARD web site is a little over five years old and has just received its first major face lift. There are several new features that patrons have requested over the last several years. These new features make the BARD web site more enjoyable.

Braille: The B in BARD stands for braille. The new web site contains over 12,500 braille titles. These braille titles have been moved to the BARD site from the Web Braille site which has been operational for over ten years. The Web Braille site will be taken down sometime in the next three to six months. Thus, allowing the BARD site to be your one stop for downloading both braille and audio books.

Music Scores: Braille sheet music is now available for musicians or music teachers to download.

Wish List: If you don't have the time to download a book right now you can place it on your wish list for future downloading. The link to the Wish List is on the BARD main page.

My Previous Downloads: If you forget what books you've downloaded in the past the "My Previous Downloads" link is very handy. You can click on this link to see what books you've previously downloaded as well as the date they were downloaded. If you want to listen to a book again just download it from this page.

Update Settings Link: This link has been given an additional option. A combo box entitled "Display Both" has been added. This combo box has three choices. Both, Audio Only, or Braille Only. If you just want audio books displayed select the "Audio Only" option, tab to the Update Button, and press Enter to activate your choice. You will only get the audio books displayed. If you just want braille books displayed do the above and select Braille Only.

To sign up for BARD and download digital talking books go to <https://nlsbard.loc.gov> .

Volunteers Record Books of Local Interest

Michigan Notable Books

- DBL8277 ***Summer of '68 : the Season that Changed Baseball and America Forever*** by Tim Wendel. Narrated by Max King. (2013)
- DBL8281 ***Once Upon a River*** by Bonnie J. Campbell. Narrated by JoAnn Dashner. (2012)
- DBL8259 ***Bath Massacre : America's First School Bombing*** by Arnie Bernstein. Narrated by Andy Andersen. (2010)
- DBL8263 ***Isadore's Secret : Sin, Murder, and Confession in a Northern Michigan Town*** by Mardi Link. Narrated by Karen Glaser. (2010)
- DBL8262 ***Lost Tiki Palaces of Detroit*** by Michael Zadoorian. Narrated by Keith Kurek. (2010)
- DBL8258 ***Michigan's Columbus: the Life of Douglass Houghton*** by Steve Lehto. Narrated by Michael Donovan. (2010)
- DBL8261 ***Orlando M. Poe Civil War General and Great Lakes Engineer*** by Paul Taylor. Narrated by Michael Donovan. (2010)

Michigan Interest Books

- DBL8265 ***Al Kaline : the Biography of a Tigers Icon*** by Jim Hawkins
Narrated by Michael Donovan
- DBL8268 ***A Governor's Story : the Fight for Jobs and Americas Economic Future*** by Jennifer Granholm. Narrated by Karen Glaser
- DBL8269 ***Hard Stuff : the Autobiography of Coleman Young*** by Coleman Young. Narrated by Michael Donovan.

Youth Programming

Jessica Goodrich, Youth and Outreach Librarian
1-800-992-9012 or goodrichj1@michigan.gov

Teen Tech Week - March 10-16

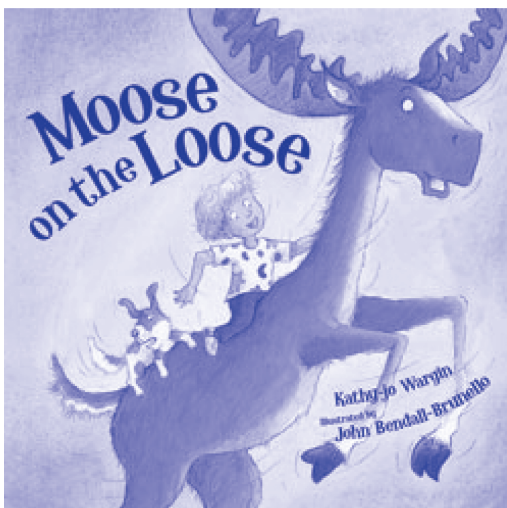
This is the first year we have had programming for teen tech week at BTBL. We will be posting a video series on using BARD (with and without JAWS) on our new YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/mibtbl. There will also be a list of teen tech books on our website in March.

Dig Into Reading with the 2013 Summer Reading Program

This year BTBL will have a summer reading program for our youth readers (0 to 21 years old) starting June 3 and ending August 30. There will be prizes, events and more. Additional information will be coming in the next InFocus and on our website. If you have any questions about summer reading, call or email Jessica.

Youth Involvement Group

Here at BTBL we are working on creating more youth programming and we need your help! To hear your ideas, opinions and whatever else you have to say, we would like to start a youth involvement group. We will start the discussion over email and can grow from there depending on what works for the group. Youth Programming is just getting started at BTBL. If you have any suggestions, comments or questions, please contact Jessica.



Children's Book Recorded Locally

DBL8284 *Moose on the Loose* by Kathy-jo Wargin.
Narrated by Sheryl Mase. 2012 Michigan Reads!

News

New BTBL Recording Studio Staff

Betsie Bush, Reader Advisory Librarian, recently joined the BTBL staff where she is also overseeing our volunteer narration program. Betsie came to us with a wealth of experience in recording digital books and managing a volunteer narration group. She has been busily revamping our recording program and recruiting new volunteers to narrate and edit from our studio.

Max King, an MSU journalism student and part-time student aide at BTBL, is working with Betsie as a narrator and editor. Max has narrated the most recent issues of Michigan History Magazine, Summer of 68 (2013 Michigan Notable book noted at the top of page 4) and the following patron requests.

DBL8278 *Directory of Visually Impaired Services, Michigan Edition* by Visually Impaired Information Center

DBL8276 *State of Michigan Persons with Disabilities Civil Rights Act, Act 220 of 1976* by Michigan Legislature

Libraries Without Walls 2013

Mark your calendars for June 4, 2013 when BTBL will stage another day long Libraries Without Walls Conference. NLS Director Karen Keninger will provide the keynote speech and you won't want to miss the lineup of speakers and workshops that will be available. Watch for more details in the coming months.

New OPAC

BTBL is pleased to announce a new version of our online public access catalog (OPAC). Go to www.michigan.gov/ordertalkingbooks to search our catalog and select titles you want added to your request list or sent as soon as available. Call 1-800-992-9012 to set up your user ID and password.

Library of Michigan Foundation

By making a gift to the Library of Michigan Foundation, donors can help the BSBP Braille and Talking Book Library (BTBL) better serve thousands of Michigan residents statewide who are visually impaired or have other disabilities. Donors may also opt to provide for the Library of Michigan Foundation in their wills. By doing so, donors are able to make a larger gift than what might be possible during their lifetime, become eligible to receive tax benefits, and enjoy recognition and thanks now for their planned charitable contributions later. To make a gift of support, please send a check to the Library of Michigan Foundation, P.O. Box 30159, Lansing, MI 48909, or contact Carolyn Sparks at (517) 373-1297.

The Library of Michigan Foundation is a non-profit organization which offers financial support to the BSBP Braille and Talking Book Library (BTBL) program.

If you would like to receive future mailings and information from the Library of Michigan Foundation, please sign below and return to:

Library of Michigan Foundation
P.O. Box 30159
Lansing, MI 48909



LIBRARY OF
MICHIGAN
FOUNDATION

Check for further information:

- ☐ Gifts and Bequests
- ☐ Named Endowed Funds
- ☐ I have included you in my will
- ☐ Here is a gift of \$_____ to help enhance the BSBP Braille and Talking Library program.

Signature: _____

BSBP Braille and
Talking Book Library
702 W Kalamazoo St.
P.O. Box 30007
Lansing, MI 48909

***FREE
MATTER
FOR THE
BLIND***

How to Reach the BSBP Braille and
Talking Book Library (BTBL)

By Phone: 517-373-5614
1-800-992-9012 (toll free)

By Fax: 517-373-5865
1-800-726-7323 (toll free)

By Mail: 702 W. Kalamazoo St.
P.O. Box 30007
Lansing, MI 48909

By E-Mail: btbl@michigan.gov

On the Web: www.michigan.gov/btbl

Online Catalog: www.michigan.gov/ordertalkingbooks

BARD Download: <https://nlsbard.loc.gov>

The *In Focus* Newsletter is made possible by your generous donations to the Library of Michigan Foundation. The Braille and Talking Book Library (BTBL); Bureau of Services for the Blind (BSBP); Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA); is an equal opportunity employer/program. Alternative formats, auxiliary aids, services, and other reasonable accommodations are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.